

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A mobile communication system comprising:

a plurality of transfer devices configured to transfer  
5 packets to a visited position of a mobile terminal;

a plurality of connection management devices arranged in  
a network and configured to connect to the mobile terminal;  
and

a mobile terminal including:

10 a detection unit configured to detect the transfer device,  
and

a communication unit configured to connect to the connection  
management device, and transmit/receive packets to/from the  
transfer device detected by the detection unit via the connection  
15 management device.

2. A mobile terminal comprising:

a detection unit configured to detect a transfer device  
transferring packets to a visited position of the mobile terminal;  
20 and

a communication unit configured to connect to a connection  
management device arranged in a network and connecting to the  
mobile terminal, and transmit/receive packets to/from the  
transfer device detected by the detection unit via the connection  
25 management device.

3. The mobile terminal of claim 2, further comprising:

a selection criterion storage unit configured to store a  
selection criterion for selecting the transfer device to be used  
30 for transfer of the packets; and

a selection unit configured to select the transfer device  
to be used, from among the transfer devices detected by the  
detection unit, based on the selection criterion stored in the  
selection criterion storage unit; wherein

35 the communication unit transmits/receives the packets

to/from the transfer device selected by the selection unit.

4. The mobile terminal of claim 2, further comprising:

a transfer device information storage unit configured to  
5 store addresses of the transfer devices; and

a query packet creation unit configured to create a query  
packet for searching for the transfer device, and to be transmitted  
to an address stored in the transfer device information storage  
unit; wherein

10 the communication unit transmits the query packet created  
by the query packet creation unit, and receives a notification  
packet for notifying the address of the transfer device returned  
from at least one of a query packet reception transfer device  
receiving the query packet and a peripheral transfer device other  
15 than the query packet reception transfer device, in response to  
the query packet; and

the detection unit detects the transfer device based on  
the notification packet received by the communication unit.

20 5. The mobile terminal of claim 4, further comprising:

a decision unit configured to decide inter-mobile-terminal  
information between the peripheral transfer device and the mobile  
terminal, based on inter-mobile-terminal information between the  
query packet reception transfer device and the mobile terminal,  
25 and inter-transfer-device information between the query packet  
reception transfer device and the peripheral transfer device  
included in the notification packet.

6. The mobile terminal of claim 2, further comprising:

30 a data creation unit configured to create data for  
investigating transfer device information concerning the  
transfer device, and to be transmitted to the transfer device  
detected by the detection unit; wherein

the communication unit transmits the data created by the  
35 data creation unit, and receives response data returned from the

transfer device, in response to the data.

7. A transfer device comprising:

a transfer device information storage unit configured to  
5 store addresses of a plurality of transfer devices;

a notification packet creation unit configured to acquire  
an address of the transfer device stored in the transfer device  
information storage unit and create a notification packet for  
notifying the address of the transfer device; and

10 a communication unit configured to transmit/receive  
packets to/from a mobile terminal, via a connection management  
device arranged in a network and connecting to the mobile terminal,  
transmit the notification packet created by the notification  
packet creation unit, and transfer the packets to a visited  
15 position of the mobile terminal.

8. The transfer device of claim 7, wherein the notification  
packet creation unit creates the notification packet in at least  
one of cases where the communication unit has received a query  
20 packet for searching for the transfer device from the mobile  
terminal, where the communication unit has received the  
notification packet from an other transfer device, and where the  
communication unit has received a notification initiator packet  
for requesting the other transfer device to transmit the  
25 notification packet to the mobile terminal, from the other  
transfer device.

9. The transfer device of claim 7, further comprising:

an initiator packet creation unit configured to create a  
30 notification initiator packet for requesting an other transfer  
device to transmit the notification packet to the mobile terminal;  
wherein

the communication unit transmits the notification  
initiator packet created by the initiator packet creation unit  
35 to the other transfer device.

10. The transfer device of claim 9, wherein the initiator packet creation unit creates the notification initiator packet in at least one of cases where the communication unit has received a query packet for searching for the transfer device from the mobile terminal, where the communication unit has received the notification packet from the other transfer device, and where the communication unit has received the notification initiator packet from the other transfer device.

11. The transfer device of claim 8 or 10, wherein the notification initiator packet is transmitted to a peripheral transfer device other than a query packet reception transfer device receiving the query packet.

12. A transfer device comprising:

a communication unit configured to transmit/receive packets to/from a mobile terminal via a connection management device arranged in a network and connecting to the mobile terminal, and transfer the packets to a visited position of the mobile terminal;

a determination unit configured to determine whether a packet received by the communication unit is a packet from a mobile terminal allowed to use packet transfer performed by the transfer device; and

a transfer management unit configured to manage transfer of the packets to the visited position based on a determination result by the determination unit.

13. The transfer device of claim 12, further comprising:

a terminal information storage unit configured to store terminal information unique to the mobile terminal allowed to use the packet transfer; wherein

the determination unit determines based on whether information concerning the mobile terminal included in the packet

received by the communication unit coincides with the terminal information stored in the terminal information storage unit.

14. The transfer device of claim 12, further comprising:

5 a data storage unit configured to store common data commonly assigned to the mobile terminals allowed to use the packet transfer; wherein

the determination unit determines based on whether data included in the packet received by the communication unit

10 coincides with the common data stored in the data storage unit.

15. A mobile communication method comprising:

detecting a transfer device transferring packets to a visited position of a mobile terminal, by the mobile terminal;

15 connecting to a connection management device arranged in a network and connecting to the mobile terminal, by the mobile terminal; and

transmitting/receiving packets to/from a detected transfer device via the connection management device, by the mobile

20 terminal.

16. A mobile communication method comprising:

determining whether a packet received from a mobile terminal via a connection management device arranged in a network and

25 connecting to the mobile terminal is a packet from a mobile terminal allowed to use packet transfer performed by a transfer device transferring packets to a visited position of the mobile terminal; and

managing transfer of the packets to the visited position

30 based on a determination result, by the transfer device.